Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A printing ink composition comprising a metal-complexed dye represented by the formula

$$(R_1X_1)_n \xrightarrow{R_3} N \xrightarrow{N} (R_2X_2)_m$$

$$(Z)_p$$

or a salt thereof wherein:

M is a metal copper;

 R_1 and R_2 each independently is a solubilizing group; R_3 is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1)alkyl;
- (2) cyano;
- (3) COOH; and
- (4) CONH2;

 X_1 and X_2 each independently is a counterion;

Z is a ligand;

n is an integer of from 1 to 3;

m is an integer of from 1 to 3; and p is an integer of from 1 to 3; dissolved or dispersed in a liquid carrier.

Claim 2 (original). The printing ink composition according to Claim 1 wherein said liquid carrier comprises water.

Claim 3 (canceled hereby).

Claim 4 (original). The printing ink composition according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of X_1 and X_2 is an alkali metal ion.

Claim 5 (original). The printing ink composition according to Claim 1 which includes a dye represented by the formula

$$(R_1X_1)_n \xrightarrow{R_5} N \xrightarrow{N} (R_2X_2)_m$$

$$(Z)_p$$

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wherein R_5 is alkyl and M, R_1 , R_2 , X_1 , X_2 , Z, m, n and p are as defined in claim 1.

Claim 6 (currently amended). The printing ink composition according to Claim 1 which includes a dye represented by the formula

Claim 7 (original). An ink jet ink comprising a solution of a dye according to Claim 1 in water, aqueous alcohol or an aqueous glycol.

Claim 8 (currently amended). A printing ink composition comprising a metal-complexed dye represented by the formula

$$(R_1X_1)n \xrightarrow{1} (R_2X_2)m$$

$$(R_2X_2)m \xrightarrow{N \cdot N} (R_2X_2)m$$

$$(R_2X_2)m \xrightarrow{N \cdot N} (R_1X_1)n$$

$$(R_2X_2)m \xrightarrow{N \cdot N} (R_3X_2)m$$

wherein:

M is a metal copper;

 R_1 and R_2 each independently is a solubilizing group; R_3 is selected from the group consisting of:

(5) (1) alkyl;

(6) (2) cyano;

(7) (3) COOH; and

(8) (4) CONH₂;

 X_1 and X_2 each independently is a counterion; n is an integer of from 1 to 3; and m is an integer of from 1 to 3; dissolved or dispersed in a liquid carrier.

Claim 9 (original). The printing ink composition according to Claim 8 wherein said liquid carrier comprises water.

Claim 10 (canceled hereby).

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Claim 11 (original). The printing ink composition according to Claim 8 wherein at least one of X_1 and X_2 is an alkali metal ion.

Claim 12 (original). An ink jet cartridge comprising a housing having walls defining a reservoir and an outlet opening, the cartridge containing an ink jet ink according to Claims 1 or 8.

Claim 13 (original). An ink jet printing method comprising forming a plurality of drops of an ink composition, and directing said drops onto an ink receptive material to form an image thereon, wherein said ink composition is according to Claims 1 or 8.

Claim 14 (currently amended). A metal-complexed dye represented by the formula

$$(R_1X_1)_n \xrightarrow{R_5} (R_2X_2)_m$$

$$O \qquad M$$

$$O \qquad (Z)_p$$

where

M is a metal copper;

 R_1 and R_2 each independently is a solubilizing group; R_5 is alkyl cyano, COOH or CONH₂; X_1 and X_2 each independently is a counterion; Z is a ligand; ... R_5 is an integer of from 1 to 3; R_5 is an integer of from 1 to 3; R_5 and R_5 is an integer of from 1 to 3.

Claim 15 (original). A metal-complexed dye according to Claim 14 wherein R_5 is methyl.

Claim 16 (canceled hereby).